
PATIENT REFUSAL OF CARE OR OTHER PATIENT REQUEST

Prehospital personnel should be sensitive to the needs and concerns of the patient and the patient's family. In the event that a competent, conscious patient or legal guardian refuses care offered, or requests to be transported to a hospital other than the nearest, medically appropriate facility, the patient's request should be met.

In the event that a patient refuses treatment, transport, or transport to a medically appropriate destination, the signature of the patient or legal guardian must be obtained on the patient care record. Base Hospital Contact should be made if in the EMT-P's judgment the patient's condition warrants the treatment and/or transport being refused. All patient contacts must be documented on the appropriate patient care record. Patient care records shall be reviewed by the provider agency in accordance with the San Bernardino Co. EMS Quality Improvement Plan and subsequently forwarded to San Bernardino Co. EMS.

Providers may refuse a request to transport a patient to a more distant facility if it lies outside of their service area provided they offer transportation to an appropriate medical facility. In the event the patient or legal guardian insists upon transport and the transporting ambulance agrees to transport to a more distant facility, the signature of the patient or legal guardian must be obtained on the patient care record and Base Hospital Contact made.